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THE GREAT VICTORY.

THE TRIBUNE was long the only newspaper in the United States receiving special dispatches from the staff of the French army, and at the leading capital. The Tribune's dispatches have been used, in an imperfect form, by the New York Herald, World, Times, and Sun. They were thus used yesterday by the New York Herald, World, Sunday News and Sunday Mercury.

FALL OF NAPOLEON.

THE DECISIVE BATTLE OF THE WAR. MARSHAL MACMAHON'S WHOLE ARMY CAPTURED.—THE EMPEROR SURRENDERED TO KING WILLIAM.—MACMAHON SEVERELY WOUNDED.—DISPATCH FROM KING WILLIAM.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)
LONDON, Saturday, Sept. 3, 1870.
The special correspondent of THE TRIBUNE telegraphs that the Emperor and the whole of MacMahon's army were captured yesterday. The following dispatch from King William to Queen Augusta had just been made public in Berlin:

BEFORE SEDAN, FRANCE, Friday, Sept. 2—12:22 p. m.
From the King to the Queen.—A capitulation, whereby the whole army at Sedan are prisoners of war, has just been concluded with Gen. Wimpfen, commanding, instead of Marshal MacMahon, who is wounded. The Emperor surrendered himself to me, as he has no command, and left everything to the Regency at Paris. His residence I shall appoint after an interview with him at a rendezvous to be fixed immediately. Under God's guidance, what a course events have taken!

THE BATTLE AND THE SURRENDER.
THE FRENCH CUT OFF FROM MEZIERES—SEDAN COMPLETELY SURROUNDED—THE FORTIFICATIONS CARRIED BY THE BAVARIANS—THE EMPEROR'S LETTER TO KING WILLIAM.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)
LONDON, Saturday, Sept. 3, 1870.
The special correspondent of THE TRIBUNE telegraphs as follows from the King's headquarters at Vendresse, near Sedan, on Friday: "The battle of Sedan began at 6 a. m. on the 1st of September. Two Prussian corps were in position on the west of Sedan, having got there by a long forced march, so as to cut off the French retreat to Mézières. On the South of Sedan was the First Bavarian Corps, and on the East, across the Meuse, the Second Bavarian Corps. The Saxons were on the North-east with the Guards. I was with the King throughout the day on the hill above the Meuse, commanding a splendid view of the valley of the river and the field.

"After a tremendous battle, the Prussians having completely surrounded Sedan, and the Bavarians having actually entered the fortifications of the city, the Emperor capitulated at 5:15 p. m. His letter to the King of Prussia said:

"As I cannot die at the head of my army, I lay my sword at the feet of your Majesty."
"Napoleon left Sedan for the Prussian headquarters at Vendresse at 7 a. m. on the 2d September. MacMahon's whole army, comprising 100,000 men, capitulated without conditions. The Prussians had 240,000 troops engaged or in reserve, the French 120,000."

THE BATTLES BEFORE SEDAN.
FORCED MARCH OF THE GERMANS IN PURSUIT OF MACMAHON—TERRIBLE STRUGGLES UNDER THE WALLS OF SEDAN—THE FRENCH DEFEATED AT EVERY POINT AND DRIVEN INTO THE FORTRESS—SCENES AND INCIDENTS OF THE CAPITULATION.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)
LONDON, Saturday, Sept. 3, 1870.
The following dispatch is from the special correspondent of THE TRIBUNE at the headquarters of the King of Prussia, eight miles from Sedan, Thursday night, Sept. 1, 1870:

WHAT THE FRENCH PRISONERS SAY.
After their defeats on the 30th and 31st ult., the French retreated en masse on Sedan, and encamped around it. From what I learned from the French prisoners—of whom, as you may imagine, there was no lack in our quarter—it seems that they fully believed that the road to Mézières would always be open to them, and that therefore, in case of another defeat before Sedan, their retreat would be easily accomplished.

A FORCED MARCH.
On the evening of Wednesday, from 5 to 8 o'clock, I was at the Crown Prince's quarters at Chemery, a village some 13 miles from Sedan to the south-south-west on the main road. At half-past five we saw that there was a great movement among the troops encamped all around us, and we thought at first that the King was riding through the bivouacs; but soon the 37th regiment came pouring through the village, their band playing *Die wacht am Rhein* as they marched along with a swinging stride. I saw at once by the men's faces that something extraordinary was going on. It was soon plain that the troops were in the lightest possible marching order. All their knapsacks were left behind, and they were carrying nothing but cloaks along under their shoulders, except that one or two *bonnets* had retained their camp-kettles. But if the camp-kettles were left behind, the camp-kettles were left hanging heavily in front of the men's belts, unbalanced, as they ought to be, by the knapsacks. Soon I learned that the whole Prussian corps—those sent from Prince Frederick Charles's army, the Second Army, and the Crown Prince—were making a forced march to the left in the direction of Donchery and Mézières, in order to cut off MacMahon's army in the rear, and to drive them against the Belgian frontier. I learned from the officers of the Crown Prince's staff that at the same time, the whole of the French army was being driven back towards Sedan.

POSITION OF THE CONTENDING FORCES.
On the projecting spur of the hill, crowned by the woods of La Marée of which I have already spoken, the Bavarians had posted two batteries of 6-pounder rifled breech-loading steel Krupp guns, which kept up a duello till the very end of the day with the siege guns of Sedan across the Meuse. Still further to the right bank, or rather, to the east (for our line was a circular one—a crescent at first, with Sedan in the center like the star on the Turkish standard), was an undulating plain above the village of Bazelle. Terminating about a mile and a half from Sedan, at the woods near Rabecourt, midway—that is to say, in a line from Bazelle north—there is a ravine crossed by a tiny brook which was the scene of the most desperate struggle of the whole battle. This ravine, whose name I have forgotten, if I ever had one, runs right behind the town of Sedan.

From the woods of Bazelle on the north, the French army was being driven back towards Sedan.

after regiment pass through Chemery, the Saxons and the Guards, 80,000 strong, on the Prussian right, under Prince Albert of Saxony, were also marching rapidly, to close on the doomed French army on the right bank of the Meuse, which they had crossed at Remilly on Tuesday, the 30th, in the direction of La Chapelle, a small village of 900 inhabitants on the road from Sedan to Bouillon in Belgium, and the last village before crossing the frontier.

Anything more splendid than the men's marching it would be impossible to imagine. I saw men lame in both feet hobbling along in the ranks, kind comrades less footsore carrying their needle-guns. Those who were actually incapable of putting one foot before another, had pressed peasants' wagons and every available conveyance into service, and were following in the rear, so as to be ready for the great battle, which all felt sure would come off on the morrow. The Bavarians, who, it is generally believed, do not march so well as they fight, were in the center, between us at Chemery and Sedan, encamped around the woods of La Marée, famous for a great battle in 1641, during the wars of the League. When I had seen the last regiment dash through—for the pace at which they went can really not be called "marching" in the ordinary sense—I rode off about a quarter past eight in the evening for Vendresse where the King's headquarters were, and where I hoped to find room for man and beast, especially the latter, as being far the most important on the eve of a great battle.

When I got within about half a mile of Vendresse, going at a steady trot, a sharp "Halt!" rang out through the clear air. I brought my horse to a stand-still, knowing that Prussian sentries are not to be trifled with. As I pulled up 20 yards off, I heard the clicks of their boots as they brought their weapons to full cock and covered me. My reply being satisfactory, I jogged on into Vendresse, and my mare and myself had soon forgotten sentinels, forced marches, and coming battles, one of us on the straw, the other on the floor.

THE START FOR THE BATTLE-FIELD.
At seven Thursday morning my servant came to wake me, saying that the King's horses were harnessing, and that His Majesty would leave in half-an-hour for the battle-field, and as a cannonade had already been heard near Sedan, I jumped up, seized crusts of bread, wine, cigars, etc., and crammed them into my holster, taking my breakfast on the way. Just as I got to my horse King William drove out in an open carriage with four horses, for Chevalange, about three and a half miles south of Sedan. Much against my will, I was compelled to allow the King's staff to precede me on the road to the scene of action, where I arrived myself soon after 9 o'clock. It was impossible to ride fast, all the roads being blocked with artillery, ammunition wagons, ambulances, etc. As I rode on to the crest of the hill which rises sharply about 600 or 700 feet above the little hamlet of Chevalange, nestled in a grove below.

A MOST GLORIOUS PANORAMA burst on my view. As General Forsyth of the United States army remarked to me later in the day, it would have been worth the coming, merely to see so splendid a scene, without "battle's magnificently stern array." In the lovely valley below us, from the knoll on which I stood with the King and his staff, we could see not only the whole Valley of the Meuse (or Maas as the Germans love to call the river that Louis XIV stole from them), but also, beyond the great woods of Bois de Loup and Franchéval into Belgium, and as far as the hilly forest of Nuno on the other side of the frontier. Right at our feet lay the little town of Sedan, famous for its fortifications by Vauban and as the birthplace of Turenne—the great Marshal. It is known also as the place where Sedan chairs originated. As we were only about two and a quarter miles from the town we could easily distinguish its principal edifices without the aid of our field-glasses. On the left was a pretty church, its Gothic spire of sandstone offering a conspicuous target for the Prussian guns, had Gen. Moltke thought fit to bombard the town. To the right, on the south-east of the church, was a large barrack, with the fortifications of the citadel. Behind it and beyond this to the south-east again was the old chateau of Sedan, with picturesque, round-towered towers of the sixteenth century, very useless even against four-pounder Krupp field-pieces. This building, I believe, is now an arsenal. Beyond this was the citadel—the heart of Sedan, on a rising hill above the Meuse to the south-east, but completely commanded by the hills on both sides the river which runs in front of the citadel.

A GRAVE FRENCH BLUNDER.
The French had flooded the low meadows in the valley before coming to the railway bridge at Bazelle, in order to stop the Germans from advancing on the town in that direction. With their usual stupidity (for one can find no other word for it), the French had failed to mine the bridge at Bazelle, and it was of immense service to the Prussians throughout the battle. The Prussians actually threw up earthworks on the iron bridge itself to protect it from the French, who more than once attempted early in the day to storm the bridge, in the hope of breaking the Bavarian communication between the right and left banks of the Meuse. This they were unable to do; and although their cannon-shot had almost demolished the parapet, the bridge itself was never materially damaged.

ON THE PROJECTING SPURS OF THE HILL, crowned by the woods of La Marée of which I have already spoken, the Bavarians had posted two batteries of 6-pounder rifled breech-loading steel Krupp guns, which kept up a duello till the very end of the day with the siege guns of Sedan across the Meuse. Still further to the right bank, or rather, to the east (for our line was a circular one—a crescent at first, with Sedan in the center like the star on the Turkish standard), was an undulating plain above the village of Bazelle. Terminating about a mile and a half from Sedan, at the woods near Rabecourt, midway—that is to say, in a line from Bazelle north—there is a ravine crossed by a tiny brook which was the scene of the most desperate struggle of the whole battle. This ravine, whose name I have forgotten, if I ever had one, runs right behind the town of Sedan.

From the woods of Bazelle on the north, the French army was being driven back towards Sedan.

tages and fruit-laden orchards, and crowned by the wood of La Garenne which runs down to the valley of which I have just spoken. Between this wood and the town were several French camps; their white shelter tents standing out clear among the dark fruit-trees. In these camps one could see throughout the day huge masses of troops which were never used. Even during the height of the battle, they stood as idle as Fitz John Porter's at the Second Battle of Bull-Run. We imagined that they must have been undisciplined Gardes Mobiles whom the French Generals dared not bring out against their enemy.

To the Prussian left of these French camps, separated from them by a wooded ravine, was a long bare hill, something like one of the hills on Long Island. This hill, on which was some of the hardest fighting of the day, formed one of the keys of the position of the French army. When once its crests were covered with Prussian artillery, the whole town of Sedan was completely at the mercy of the German guns, as they were not only above the town, but the town was almost within musket range of them.

Still further to the left lay the village of Illy, set on fire early in the day by the French shells. South of this the broken railway bridge, blown up by the French to protect their right, was a conspicuous object. Right above the railway bridge on the line to Mézières was the wooded hill crowded by the new and most hideous "chateau" as he calls it, of one Monsieur Pavé. It was here the Crown Prince and his staff stood during the day, having a rather more extensive but less central view, and therefore less desirable than ours, where stood the King, Count Bismarck, Von Roon, the War Minister, Gen. Moltke, and Gen. Sheridan and Forsyth—to say nothing of your correspondent.

THE PRUSSIAN PLAN OF BATTLE.
Having thus endeavored to give some faint idea of the scene of what is in all probability the decisive battle of the war, I will next give an account of the position of the different corps at the commencement of the action, premising that all the movements were of the simplest possible nature, the object of the Prussian Generals being merely to close the crescent of troops with which they began into a circle, by effecting a junction between the Saxon corps on their right and the Prussian corps on their left. This junction took place about noon, near the little village of Olley, on the Bazelle ravine, behind Sedan, of which I have already spoken. Once their terrible circle formed and well soldered together, it grew steadily smaller and smaller, until at last the fortifications of Sedan itself were entered.

On the extreme right were the Saxons—one corps d'armée, with King William's Guards; also, a corps d'armée in reserve behind them. The Guards had suffered terribly at Gravelotte, where they met the Imperial Guard; and the King would not allow them to be again so cruelly decimated. Justice compels me to state that this arrangement was very far indeed from being pleasing to the Guards themselves, who are ever anxious to be in the forefront of the battle.

The Guards and Saxons, then about 75,000 strong, were all day on the right bank of the Meuse, between Rabecourt and La Chapelle, at which latter village Prince Albert of Saxony, who was in command of the two corps which have been formed into a little extra army by themselves, passed the night of Thursday. The ground from Rabecourt to the Meuse was occupied by the First Bavarian Corps. The Second Bavarian Corps extended their front from near the Bazelle railway-bridge to a point on the high road from Donchery to Sedan, not far from the little village of Torey. Below the hill on which the Crown Prince was placed, the ground from Torey to Illy, through the large village of Floing, was held by the First and Third Prussian Corps belonging to the army of Prince Frederick Charles, and temporarily attached to the army of the Crown Prince.

This was the position of the troops about 9 o'clock on Thursday morning, Sept. 1, and no great advance took place till later than that, for the artillery had at first all the work to do. Still further to the left, near Donchery, there were 20,000 Wurtembergers ready to cut off the French from Mézières, in case of their making a push for that fortress.

THE FORCES ENGAGED.
The number of the Prussian troops engaged was estimated by Gen. Moltke at 240,000, and that of the French at 120,000. We know that MacMahon had with him on Tuesday 120,000 men, that is, four corps; his own, that lately commanded by Gen. De Failly, now under Gen. Le Brun; that of Felix Douay, brother of Gen. Abel Douay, killed at Weissenburg; and a fourth corps principally composed of Gardes Mobiles, the name of whose commander has escaped me. MacMahon, although wounded, commanded in chief on the French side.

It is almost needless to say that the real Commander-in-Chief of the Prussians was Von Moltke; with the Crown Prince and Prince Albert of Saxony immediately next in command. OPENING OF THE BATTLE.
There were a few stray cannon shots fired, merely to obtain the range, as soon as it was light; but the real battle did not begin until 6 o'clock, becoming a sharp artillery fight at 9, when the batteries had each got within easy range, and the shells began to do serious mischief. At 11:55 the musketry fire in the valley behind Sedan, which had opened about 11:25, became exceedingly lively—being one continuous rattle, only broken by the loud growling of the mitrailleuses, which played with deadly effect upon the Saxon and Bavarian columns. Gen. Sheridan, by whose side I was standing at the time, told me that he did not remember ever to have heard such a well-sustained fire of small arms. It made itself heard above the roar of the batteries at our feet.

At 12 o'clock precisely the Prussian battery of six guns on the slope above the broken railway bridge over the Meuse, near La Villette, had silenced two batteries of French guns at the foot of the bare hill already mentioned, near the village of Floing. At 12:10 the French infantry, no longer supported by their artillery, were compelled to retire to Floing, and soon afterward the junction between the Saxons and Prussians behind Sedan was announced to us by Gen. Von Roon, eagerly peering through a large telescope, as being safely completed.

THE FRENCH SURROUNDED.
From this moment the result of the battle

could no longer be doubtful. The French were completely surrounded and brought to bay. At 12:25 we were all astonished to see clouds of retreating French infantry on the hill between Floing and Sedan, a Prussian battery in front of St. Menges making accurate practice with percussion shells among the retreating ranks. The whole hill for a quarter of an hour was literally covered with Frenchmen running rapidly.

Less than half an hour afterward—at 12:50—Gen. Von Roon called our attention to another French column in full retreat to the right of Sedan, on the road leading from Bazelle to the La Garenne wood. They never halted until they came to a red-roofed house on the outskirts of Sedan itself. Almost at the same moment Gen. Sheridan, who was using my opera-glass, asked me to look at a third French column moving up a broad, grass-covered road through the La Garenne wood, immediately above Sedan, doubtless to support the troops defending the important Bazelle ravine to the north-east of the town.

THE KEY OF THE POSITION.
At 1 o'clock the French batteries on the edge of the wood toward Torey and above it opened a vigorous fire on the advancing Prussian columns of the Third Corps, whose evident intention it was to storm the hill north-west of La Garenne, and so gain the key of the position on that side. At 1:05 yet another French battery near the wood opened on the Prussian columns, which were compelled to keep shifting their ground till ready for their final rush at the hills, in order to avoid offering so good a mark to the French shells. Shortly afterward we saw the first Prussian skirmishers on the crest of the La Garenne hills above Torey. They did not seem to be in strength, and Gen. Sheridan, standing behind me, exclaimed:

"Ah! the beggars are too weak; they can never hold that position against all those French."
The General's prophecy soon proved correct, for the French advanced at least six to one, and the Prussians were forced to retreat down the hill to seek reinforcements from the columns which were hurrying to their support. In five minutes they came back again, this time in greater force, but still terribly inferior to those huge French masses.

AN UNSUCCESSFUL CAVALRY CHARGE.
"Good heavens! The French cuirassiers are going to charge them," cried Gen. Sheridan; and sure enough, the regiment of cuirassiers, their helmets and breast-plates flashing in the September sun, formed in sections of squadrons and dashed down on the scattered Prussian skirmishers, without deigning to form a line. Squares are never used by the Prussians, and the infantry received the cuirassiers with a crushing "quick-fire," *schnellfeuer*, at about a hundred yards distance, loading and firing with extreme rapidity, and shooting with unflinching precision into the dense French squadrons. The effect was startling. Over went horses and men in numbers, in masses, in hundreds; and the regiment of proud French cuirassiers went hurriedly back in disorder; went back faster than it came; went back scarcely a regiment in strength, and not at all a regiment in form. Its comely array was suddenly changed into shapeless and helpless crowds of flying men.

CAVALRY PURSUED BY INFANTRY.
The moment the cuirassiers turned back, the brave Prussians actually dashed forward in hot pursuit at double-quick; infantry evidently pursuing flying cavalry. Such a thing has not often been recorded in the annals of war. I know not when an example to compare precisely with this has occurred. There was no more striking episode in the battle.

NEEDLE GUNS VS. CHASSEPOTS.
When the French infantry saw their cavalry thus fleeing before foot soldiers, they in their turn came forward and attacked the Prussians. The Prussians waited quietly; patiently enduring a rapid and telling fire from the Chassepots until their enemies had drawn so near as to be within a hundred yards of them. Then to the fire of the chassepots they returned a fire as rapid from their needle-guns; and the French infantry could no more endure this Prussian fire than the cavalry to whose rescue they had come. The infantry fled in its turn, and followed the cavalry to the place whence they came, that is behind a ridge about 500 yards on the way to Sedan where the Prussian fire could no longer reach them.

The great object of the Prussians was gained, since they were not driven from the crest of the hill they fought to hold. Holding it thus against cavalry, the Prussians persuaded themselves that it was possible to establish artillery on this hill.

(Owing to the interruption of telegraph communication over the land wires in New-Brunswick, this is all of the above dispatch that has reached us up to 3 a. m. The remainder must be looked for in Tuesday's TRIBUNE.)

THE NEWS IN BERLIN.
IMMENSE ENTHUSIASM—PATRIOTIC SONGS SUNG IN THE STREETS—THE CROWD ADDRESSED BY THE QUEEN—THE DAY GIVEN UP TO FESTIVITY.

BERLIN, Saturday, Sept. 3, 1870.
The receipt of the news that the Emperor and MacMahon had capitulated has occasioned the most prodigious enthusiasm here. Thousands of people through the streets, moving in ranks with arms linked, singing patriotic songs, shouting and exhibiting every other sign of enthusiasm.

A surging crowd assembled before the palace, when in response to the cheering, the Queen appeared and made a short address. All the schools were closed and the children given a holiday. The monument to Frederick the Second was literally buried in flags. Demonstrations were made before the residences of Count von Bismarck, Baron de Moltke, and Minister of War de Roon. The shops and stores were mostly closed, and the day given up to festivities and rejoicings.

HOW THE NEWS WAS RECEIVED IN ENGLAND.
THE STREETS OF LONDON FILLED WITH DELIGHTED MULTITUDES—ENGLISH SYMPATHY STRONGLY WITH PRUSSIA—TONE OF THE LONDON PRESS.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)
LONDON, Saturday, Sept. 3, 1870.
London is wild with delight over Prussia's triumph. The streets were for two hours filled with excited multitudes. Englishmen congratulate each other as if it were in English victory. Their sympathies with Prussia were never before so strongly manifested. The intelligence of the surrender was fast

published here by *The Daily News*, in an extra, at about 10 o'clock this morning. Other papers soon followed. Placards are everywhere in the streets. Thousands of dispatches were sent in every direction.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says: "The news will be regarded as final. If the Emperor hopes, by a hastily patched-up peace, to find means to transfer the throne to his son, it is the last and greatest delusion of a life of delusions. He may find it easier to begin than to end war. Peace is by no means yet certain. There is no Government to make peace. Imperialism is dead. The substitute is Orleans or a Republic. It can hardly begin by a surrender. France has for the first time to act. Her eyes are for the first time opened."

The *Evening Standard* says: "Sedan is the Emperor's Waterloo. The Second Empire is now overthrown." It deprecates exultation, and expresses heartfelt sympathy with the fallen sovereign.

The *Echo* says: "The Emperor's last act does what is possible to redeem his fault. The author of the war surrenders himself to the conqueror, admitting his own defeat that he may help avert that of France."

THE PARISIANS UNDECEIVED.
PROCLAMATION FROM THE MINISTERS—MACMAHON'S DISASTER AND THE EMPEROR'S CAPTURE ANNOUNCED—FRENCH COURAGE NOT YET SHAKEN—NEW ARMIES FORMING—FRANCE YET TO BE SAVED.

PARIS, Sept. 4, 1870.
The Council of Ministers has issued the following proclamation:

To the French People: A great misfortune has come upon the country. After three days of heroic struggles, sustained by the army of Marshal MacMahon, against 300,000 of the enemy, 40,000 men have been made prisoners. Gen. de Wimpfen, who took command of the army in place of Marshal MacMahon, badly wounded, has signed a capitulation. This cruel reverse will not shake our courage. Paris is to-day in a complete state of defense. The military forces of the country will be organized in a few days. A new army will be under the walls of Paris. Another army is forming on the banks of the Loire. Your patriotism, your union, your energy will save France. The Emperor has been made a prisoner in the struggle. The Government, in accord with the public Powers, will take all measures required by the gravity of events.

COUNT DE PALIKAO, GRANDPERRIER, H. CHEVREAU, CLEMENT DUVERNOIS, RIGAUD DE GENOUILLY, P. MAGNE, JULES BRAME, JEROME BILLAUT, DELA TOUR D'AUVIGNY, JEROME DAVID, of the Council of Ministers.

THE NEWS IN THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.
STATEMENT OF COUNT PALIKAO—HE ADMITS THAT BAZAINE IS SHUT UP IN METZ—FRENCH RESOURCES STILL ILLIMITABLE—PARIS TO BE DEFENDED—THE COMTE UNANIMOUS FOR DEFENSE OF PARIS.

PARIS, Sept. 4, 1870.
In the Senate, yesterday, the Minister of War said: "We have learned through various unofficial channels that Marshal Bazaine failed in his recent attempt to free himself from the hostile armies which held him shut up around Metz. His efforts were heroic. The King of Prussia could not help rendering justice to the valor of our soldiers. Marshal MacMahon, after endeavoring to reach a hand to Bazaine in the direction of the north, was obliged to retire. In the environs of Sedan there were several days of fighting with alternations of success and reverse. But we contended against an enemy numerically our superior, and in spite of the most energetic efforts, the attempt seems to have terminated in an unfortunate manner for our arms. Other advisers, of Prussian origin, are still more unfavorable, but do not appear to us worthy of credit in all cases, and the Government is not willing to give them the appearance of authenticity by communicating them to the public. Our reverses afflict us. It is impossible for us to witness without deep emotion so much courage and so much devotion rendered unavailing. But this spectacle, far from taking away our energy, augments and redoubles it. Since the present Cabinet came into power it has drawn from France all that her resources could yield, and they still remain so strong that, with energy and the help of the nation, we may yet have the last word. Let us hope that God will help us and drive the enemy from our soil."

M. Jérôme-David added to the above by stating that the defenses of the capital were in the best condition, and, according to competent judges, were capable of resisting all the efforts of the enemy. Let us defend Paris, he said, on the walls and in the streets, and if it must be, we will bury ourselves under its ruins.

In the Corps Législatif a statement of the situation similar to that made in the Senate was given. Jules Favre declared: "We are unanimous for defense until death. [Great applause.] It is time that compliances should cease if we wish to repair or discontinue. He concluded by attacking the Imperial power and proposing to place extraordinary powers in the hands of Gen. Trochu. The Count de Palikao and the Chamber protested.

AFFAIRS AT METZ.
THE FRENCH ARMY DEMORALIZED—THE GERMAN OCCUPATION COMMANDING POSITIONS UNMISTAKABLE—HOW MACMAHON'S MOVEMENTS WERE DISCOVERED.

BERLIN, Saturday, Sept. 3, 1870.
A letter from Metz, dated Sept. 2, gives the following information:

Since the engagement at Gravelotte, twelve days have passed without giving the French an opportunity to leave the saddle. The army in such a case is necessarily demoralized and unable to oppose the Germans, or prevent their securing chosen positions. The beleaguered army, with its numerous wounded, the garrison of the city and suburban refugees, must aggregate two hundred thousand souls. Fevers are, therefore, a necessary consequence, and are accompanied with want and suffering. Bazaine must have counted on the arrival of MacMahon to relieve this misery. That hope has been destroyed by the Prussian movements. The first thought of the Prussians was that MacMahon was hastening to the defense of Paris; but it was feared he might be hanging the Belgian frontier, march secretly back to Metz, where Bazaine was cooped up, and attack the Prussians in the rear with the cooperation of Bazaine. Hence the advance of the Prussians in three great columns, sweeping the extended lines of the Belgian frontier from along the Meuse to the Aube, eventually shutting out MacMahon from Metz. The belief on the part of the Prussians that MacMahon had gone from Rheims northward toward the Belgian frontier seemed to be confirmed from the following circumstance:

A Saxon cavalry regiment in the north overtook a regiment of the Chasseurs d'Afrique. The Saxons immediately gave them battle, and after a short and sharp encounter defeated them. These Chasseurs were never before so strongly manifested. The intelligence of the surrender was fast

WASHINGTON.

REDUCTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT—STATIONERY CONTRACT.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4, 1870.
In reply to a letter addressed to him by a gentleman in Wheeling, West Virginia, inquiring by what means the bonds purchased for the sinking fund are to be sold, and the interest thereon applied to the reduction of the debt, or whether these bonds have been destroyed, coupons and all, and the interest thereby terminated, Mr. Richardson, Acting Secretary of the Treasury, says the bonds purchased for the sinking fund and those purchased in addition thereto, and held as a special fund, have all been destroyed, with the coupons, and have been deducted from the public debt, and the interest thereon has ceased. The total amount of reduction in the principal of the public debt by this purchase, and destruction of bonds and coupons, amounted, on the 1st of September, to \$157,862,450, which is an annual reduction and saving of interest in the sum of \$5,308,666. In regard to the new bonds which are to be issued in lieu of one per cent of the principal of the debt on the 1st of each July, and the amount of interest which would have accrued on the bonds purchased or destroyed if they had been preserved, this fund to be used in the purchase or redemption of additional bonds which are likewise to be destroyed, Mr. Richardson says of course this provision of the law will be carried out, and if the state of the Treasury should allow the further authority to purchase additional bonds will also be purchased. All bonds purchased must and will be canceled, and the amount taken from the principal of the debt, after which the interest will cease. The contract for the supply of stationery to collectors and assessors of Internal Revenue for the four geographical divisions east of the Rocky Mountains was yesterday awarded to Philip & Solomon of this city.

(GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.)
The following table exhibits the exports of raw cotton during the fiscal years 1869 and 1870, respectively, as shown by Monthly Report No. 12 of the Bureau of Statistics, now in press.

	1869.	1870.
Sea Island.	2,384,582	2,384,582
Other grades.	6,362,572	6,362,572
Total.	8,747,154	8,747,154
No. of bales of 400 lb each.	139,119	139,119
The average price per pound for Sea Island cotton in 1870 was 40 cents, and for other cotton, 34 cents.		
A resident of the Seventh Ward in this city, named William Smith, was arrested by the police to-day on suspicion of murder, committed about Christmas, on the Seventh-st. road, about six miles from the city. It is alleged the murder was accompanied by robbery, the victim being a United States Marshal, who was shot in a dead man's way, who is stated, surprised the murderer as he was burying his victim in the woods, and who was induced to say nothing, but now hangs in the gallows. A complaint is being made by the police, and the examination takes place to-morrow in the Police Court.		

GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—The following has been officially promulgated from the Treasury Department:

Comparative statement of the net expenditures of the United States Government for the 12 months from Sept. 1, 1867, to March 1, 1869, and the 12 months from March 1, 1869, to Sept. 1, 1870.

	12 months from Sept. 1, 1867, to March 1, 1869.	12 months from March 1, 1869, to Sept. 1, 1870.
Congress.	\$5,064,467	\$6,586,254
Expenses of the Post Office and Marine Service.	7,189,107	8,615,122
Expenses of foreign intercourse.	2,584,000	2,584,000
Expenses of the Treasury Department.	2,584,000	2,584,000
Expenses of public buildings and grounds in Washington.	2,584,000	2,584,000
Expenses of collecting the revenue from Customs.	9,364,504	9,364,504
Miscellaneous expenses of the Treasury Department.	10,910,971	12,945,628
Expenses of the War Department.	11,797,679	12,945,628
Expenses of the Navy Department.	11,797,679	12,945,628
Expenses of the Interior Department.	2,584,000	2,584,000
Expenses of the Department of Agriculture.	4,610,519	4,792,451
Expenses of the Department of Justice.	10,910,971	12,945,628
Expenses of the Department of Education.	8,747,154	8,747,154
Expenses of the Department of the Interior.	2,584,000	2,584,000
Total.	\$22,960,669	\$24,960,669

Decrease of expenditures.
For amount of interest paid from Sept. 1, 1867, to March 1, 1869, \$211,221,716
For amount of interest paid from March 1, 1869, to Sept. 1, 1870, 192,421,115
Saving of interest, \$19,800,601
For reduction of Public Debt from Sept. 1, 1867, to March 1, 1869, \$1,232,460
For reduction of Public Debt from March 1, 1869, to Sept. 1, 1870, \$10,542,119
During the 12 months from March 1, 1869, to September 1, 1870, the amount of reduction in the public debt has been, as above shown, \$10,542,119, most of which has been applied to the cancellation of bonds bearing interest in coin, and in the payment of obligations overdue and convertible into interest-bearing bonds and certificates.

The amount of interest which will hereafter be saved to the Government on the debt actually paid is about \$745,000 or annually, or \$78,799.67 monthly, mostly in gold.
There has also been a constant improvement in the decrease of the debt during the six months since March 1, 1870, to the present date. The following table shows the result of the operations of the Government during the period named, made from the official records of the Treasury Department, under the supervision of Mr. Richardson, Acting Secretary.

HERALDING THE APPROACH OF STORMS.

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF A TELEGRAPHIC CIRCUIT THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—It is understood that the Western Union Telegraph Company proposes to cooperate with the War Department in the transmission of the telegraphic reports of "the observation and report of storms, for the benefit of commerce on our Northern lakes and seaboard." The management of the company, regarding the undertaking as of national importance, propose to place their wires at the service of the War Department in the transmission of the telegraphic reports of "the observation and report